



April 13, 2023

Dear Speaker McCarthy:

The Republican Main Street Caucus is grateful for the “Limit, Save, Grow” vision you unveiled at our Issues Conference last month. We cannot support a debt ceiling increase without much-needed fiscal reforms, so we also appreciate the specific menu of options you’ve shared since then with your leadership team.

In recent weeks, the 70 members of the Republican Main Street Caucus have discussed the options you’ve identified, as well as some others. This letter outlines those proposals that have garnered the most support from our caucus, and we have every confidence they can secure 218 votes in the U.S. House of Representatives.

1. Save Taxpayer Money

- 1.1** COVID Funds – Capture \$70 billion in unspent COVID funds.
- 1.2** Student Loan Forgiveness – Reverse the White House’s unconstitutional \$600 billion student loan forgiveness decision.
- 1.3** Non-Defense Discretionary – Return FY24 non-defense discretionary spending to FY22 levels.

2. Reduce the Deficit

- 2.1** Non-Defense Discretionary – Limit the growth of non-defense discretionary spending to 1.5% a year for the next ten years.
- 2.2** Mandatory Spending Commission – A bipartisan panel should have 6 months to propose solutions increasing the sustainability of Medicare and Social Security. These solutions will not include cuts to Medicare or Social Security benefits. Additionally, the commission should identify unnecessary mandatory spending unrelated to Medicare and Social Security, and direct those savings toward strengthening those two programs. The findings of the commission should be privileged and receive a floor vote within 60 days.


3. Grow the Economy

- 3.1** Work Requirements – Improve American competitiveness by closing SNAP work requirement loopholes that have been abused by states. Work requirements would not apply to pregnant women, parents with young dependents, those with disabilities, or seniors.
- 3.2** American Energy – Enact H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, to stimulate the economy and protect America’s energy security. Highest priority should be given to those provisions related to permitting reform.

3.3 Reducing Regulatory Overreach — Congress must reassert its oversight of the rulemaking process by requiring specific congressional authorization of major rules packages via the REINS Act.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful for your leadership. Over the last 70 days, President Biden has refused to negotiate a reasonable and sensible debt ceiling increase with you. We know these negotiations will be incredibly difficult, and you will continue to have our full support as you work to get our fiscal house in order.

Sincerely,



Dusty Johnson

Chair



Stephanie Bice

Vice-Chair